

## Certification Review Committee

The Certification Review Committee has reviewed the FY2013 Certification Standards for Utah Libraries and provided input into this year's process. The members of the Committee this year are: Jami Carter (Tooele City Library), Dan Compton (Summit County Library), Angela Edwards (Beaver Public Library), Pam Jackson (Spanish Fork Public Library), Kristi Seely (Lehi Public Library), Kent Slade (Highland Public Library), Carrie Valdes (Grand County Library)

### Kent Slade - Highland Public Library

*The proposed revisions clarify standards already in place. They appear to be reasonable, measurable, and achievable. We would encourage the State Library to include future provisions that no library will be held to a standard that is not announced for at least one year before (i.e., do not require we have met a benchmark for something we have not known about or been able to collect data on for at least a year). We would also encourage a change in the wording. Certification typically applies to individuals while accreditation applies to institutions.*

### Kristi Seely - Lehi Public Library

*I have enjoyed serving on the committee for the Certification changes and revisions. I think that the changes that have been made will help the Certification process be more meaningful and helpful to the libraries in the state. I think that this process of revision will need to continue in order to keep the Certification standards relevant and appropriate for our changing times.*

*One area in particular that will need additional discussion and change is the Technology access. With wireless technology increasing and becoming so critical to daily life, our library's Internet computers are never full, but our wireless is always being used by many, many patrons. Somehow it needs to be addressed that the wireless is becoming more important than providing physical units. While it is important to provide the actual physical computer, it is more critical to our public that we provide wireless access.*

### Dan Compton - Summit County Library

*I am happy with all of the proposed changes, but I would like to look at changing the benchmark Technology Access - Number of internet / computer users. Every library can have a different way of tracking this number. Some libraries only allow 2 sessions per day. Some are unlimited. Some require users to login every 30 minutes and others allow people to use a computer indefinitely as long as there is nobody waiting. A person could be on the computer for 4 hours and only be counted once at some libraries and 8 times at another. Most libraries also provide wireless access and may or may not have a way of reporting the number of wireless users. This is becoming more relevant each day, so we may need to tweak this benchmark to account for some of these issues.*

### Carrie Valdes - Grand County Library

*The goal of the committee is to provide meaningful certification standards without creating an undue burden on Library Directors. The current standards rely on statistical information already provided in the Annual Statistic Report to compare libraries to benchmarks. If future funding is reduced, the State Library should consider the formula utilized to determine CLEF distributions. One consideration may need to be the percentage of total budget compared to CLEF monies with libraries relying more heavily on CLEF monies being a funding priority.*

*The State Library may also need to consider a training session for consultants prior to the annual certification process to ensure conformity among consultants.*

### Pam Jackson - Spanish Fork Public Library

*Pam Jackson - Spanish Fork - The revisions that have been established in this certification process have more clearly defined the existing standards. The goals and benchmarks outlined give us a realistic view of successful services to our community on a per capita basis. One area of concern we feel pertinent is the benchmark number of Internet computers provided and the number of people using them; this is declining as the use of personal laptops and tablets expands and library wireless services are used. This benchmark will need to be addressed in future revisions.*